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MEDICINE CHESTS,

WITH

SUITABLE DIRECTIONS:

PREPARED BY

William Blasland

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DIRECTIONS

For using the Medicines.

No. 1...Emetics.

In sickness at stomach, especially when attended with pain in the head, loss of appetite, and indigestion—or if the person is threatened with a fever—dissolve one of these powders, No. 1, put it into a tumbler, turn upon it a teacup full of boiling water, stir it until it is dissolved, add another teacup of cold water; let the person take one teacup full first, if it does not operate in 25 or 30 minutes, give half of the other cup, and if in 15 minutes it does not work, give the whole. During the operation let the person drink freely of warm water. To a person under 15 years of age, give but half a cup first.

Should this or any other puke over work, half a tumbler of brandy grog, with 20 drops of laudanum in it, may be given to check it.

No. 2...Purging Powders.

When brisk and thorough purging is wanted, give one of these powders, No. 2, in a little molasses, or syrup—during the operation, let the patient drink freely of water gruel, or water porridge. This purge is proper when the patient is taken with violent pain in the head, with hot dry skin, a parched and furred tongue, and other symptoms of fever.

No. 3...Nitre, or Cooling Powder.

In high burning fever, especially in pleurisy, rheuma-

tism, or any other fever, where there is great heat, and thirst, give a tea spoonful of this powder in a teacup full of balm or other herb tea ; it may be repeated once in two or three hours, or oftener if the pain, heat, and thirst be great. In case of pleurisy, lung, or rheumatic fever, where the pain and fever are great, bleeding in the first place may be proper.

No. 4...Balsam Drops.

In case of fever, especially if the person does not incline to sweat, give 25 or 30 drops of this, No. 4, in a little herb tea, once in two or three hours, or oftener if need be, first shaking the bottle. In bad cold, or slight oppression at the breast, these often give considerable relief, by producing gentle sweating ; 25 or 30 drops taken every hour or hour and a half, and by drinking freely of warm tea, at the same time, seldom fail of producing plentiful sweating.

No. 5...Rheubarb Powders.

This is a mild cathartic, and operates kindly. Particularly proper to be given in diarrhoea, or in other cases where gentle purging is wanted ; give one of these powders, No. 5, in a little molasses or syrup, in the morning, and work it off with gruel. In case of diarrhoea, after the operation is over, give 25 or 30 drops of laudanum, in wine and water, or tea.

No. 6...Laudanum.

Good in all violent pains, colick, rheumatism, &c. or to moderate the violent working of physic ; also to procure sleep, when wanted. From 25 to 35 drops, is a dose in wine and water or tea. It is proper to put upon a fresh wound, where it is very painful, and may be repeated so often as to keep the dressings wet, until it relieves the pain. In case of cramp, or violent spasm at the stomach,

this may be given in the dose of 35 or 40 drops, and repeated (if it remains violent) every hour and half or hour, until it relieve the pain. It should be given immediately, in case of cramp, spasm, or violent colick. 15 or 20 drops of peppermint may be added to the dose, in cramp at the stomach, or bad colick.

No. 7...Astringent and Anodine Pills.

In a lengthy purging or diarrhoea, give a powder of rhubarb first, and work it off, as directed under No. 5 ; then give one of these pills, once in eight or twelve hours, or oftener, if the person should have much purging ; at the same time let the person take a dose of bitters, four or five times in 24 hours. (See directions for taking in No. 8.) These pills are proper in all obstinate fluxes of the bowels, or violent bleeding.

No. 8...Strengthening Bitters.

Take a paper of these bitters, put upon them a quart of rum or brandy, let them sleep for eight days ; dose from one to two tea spoonfulls ; to be taken in a glass of wine, or brandy and water. These bitters are proper to be given in almost all cases of debility, especially where the patient is attended with weakness at stomach, indigestion, and want of appetite. They may be given twice, three, four or five times in 24 hours, as the nature of the case may require.

No. 9...Essence of Peppermint.

Good in pains of the stomach, colicky pains, attended with wind. in trembling and nervous complaints, and in sea sickness ; 20 or 30 drops may be taken on sugar, or in a teacup of warm water for a dose ; and repeated, as occasion may require.

No. 10...Bark.

Proper in almost all cases of debility, particularly in intermittent fevers. Previous to giving it, administer a purge, No. 2. It is also proper in all putrid and nervous fevers, especially in the throat distemper. Dose, a tea-spoonful, to be taken in a little wine or water, and repeated once in two, three, or four hours, as occasion may require. In intermittent fever, or fever and ague, (as it is called), should the disorder not give way, by administering a purge, No. 2, and the use of the bark for a week or fortnight, administer a puke, No. 1, when the patient first perceives the cold fit coming on—afterwards use the bark once in two or three hours. If this does not break it up, at the coming on of the ague fit, give 25 or 30 drops of laudanum, and continue the bark as before; which treatment will seldom fail of effecting a cure. In putrid fevers, add to a dose of the bark, ten or sixteen drops of Elixir Vitriol, No. 11, which will contribute very much to its efficacy.

N. B. In dangerous cases, where the bark is used, it may be given as often, and in as large doses, as the stomach will bear. It should be given at the going off of fevers of all kinds.

No. 11...Elixir of Vitriol.

From ten to twenty drops of this Elixir may be taken in wine and water, bitters, or the bark, in cases of debility, or in putrid disorders. It is also an excellent medicine to create appetite.

No. 12...Purging Pills.

In cases of costiveness, and headache, and where the person is troubled with indigestion and flatulancy, or in any case where a person wants to make use of gentle purging, one of these pills, taken at bed time, will operate two or three times the next morning.—They are superior to

Anderson's or Lee's Bilious pills, for Bilious complaints. Let one be taken every other, or every third night—at the same time use bitters, No. 8, once in 6 or 8 hours.—These pills cannot be too highly recommended.

No. 13...Turling's Balsam of Life.

In weakness, pain, or faintness at the stomach—for sudden, cramplike, and rheumatic pains, 25 drops of this balsam may be given twice or 3 times a day, or repeated oftener, as occasion may require, in a little herb tea.

No. 14...Elixir Salutis.

A useful purge in colicky complaints, and for those who have been accustomed to the use of spirituous liquors. It may be mixed with castor oil—take two table spoonsfull of each, shake them thoroughly, let the person take two thirds of it first, if it does not work in 3 or 4 hours, take the remainder. Mixed with castor oil, it is a very useful purge in dysentery, and is equally useful in colick. Dose, from 2 to 4 table spoonsful, when given alone.

No. 15...Castor Oil.

This is a gentle purge, and in general produces its effects without griping. It may be given in cases where acrid and stimulating purges are improper. Dose, from one to two table spoonsful.

No. 16...Salts.

These are a cooling purge, are proper to be taken in all cases, where gentle and cooling physic is wanted. Dose, dissolve one of these papers, or 2 table spoonsful, in half a pint of water, let the person take it all at once.

No. 17...Tinctura Sacra.

This medicine has long been in great esteem, not only as a cathartic, but as a warm stimulant in cold phlegmatic habits, especially where there is a cold sensation, with pain at the stomach. This medicine, given in doses of half a table spoonful, and repeated two or three times, in the course of the 24 hours, or oftener, if need be, will seldom fail of giving relief, by gently stimulating and warming the stomach, and gently opening the bowels. Dose, as a purge, from two to four table spoonsful—it is a proper purge to be given in all cases where warm and stimulating purges are wanted—It has a good effect as a purge on those who have long been in the habit of using ardent spirit.

No. 18...Sugar of Lead.

In inflammations from bruises, or other causes, dissolve one of these powders, or 2 tea spoonful, in a pint of water, bathe the part affected frequently, and keep a linen rag, wet with it, applied constantly. It will tend greatly to reduce the inflammation, and ease the pain.

No. 19...Opodilidoc.

In all sprains or bruises of the joints, or other parts of the body, this is a very useful and proper application.— Shake the bottle, No. 19, pour a little of it into the palm of the hand, and rub the part with it for some time—repeat it two or three times a day.

No. 20...Balsam Traumaticum.

In case of a flesh wound, from a cut or any other means, (if not so large as to want some stitches to bring the lips of the wound together) first lay a little lint upon it, then drop enough of this balsam upon the lint to wet it, then spread a pledget of tow or web lint with Basilican, and

put it snug over it—let it remain for 4 or 5 days before removing the dressings.—This Balsam is remarkable for easing the pain and accelerating the healing of fresh wounds. In cases where the wound is so large and deep as to require sewing up, make as many stitches as are necessary, then apply the lint, balsam and pledget spread as before directed.

No. 21...Basilicon Salve.

This is proper to apply to a fresh wound, after applying the lint and balsam as directed in No. 20. This salve may be used until the wound puts on a healthy appearance, and is disposed to heal; after which, use No. 22.—This salve is proper to be applied to old sores, which have a sloughy and black appearance, and may be continued until they cast off their slough, and put on a healthy appearance.

No. 22...Healing Salve.

This Salve is proper to be applied to all slight wounds, (spread upon web lint, or a piece of rag,) such as scalds, burns, sore shins, or slight flesh wounds.

No. 23...Powder for Proud Flesh.

When fungous flesh rises up in wounds, and has a red appearance, and upon being slightly wiped or daubed with a rag, or has proud flesh in it, as it is called, sprinkle a little of this powder upon it, lay a little scraped lint over the wound, and over that lay a pledget spread with Basilicon; repeat it until it puts on a healthy appearance, and is disposed to heal; after which use No. 22. In high edged foul ulcers, in old sores which are black and sloughy, and in all foul ulcers, which are not disposed to heal, sprinkle over their surface, a little of this powder, and dress with Basilicon, as before directed—continue this dressing

every day, or every other day, as may be necessary, until they shall put on a healthy appearance ; after which dress with No. 22.

No. 24...Mercurial Ointment.

In case of buboes in the groin, from venereal infection, or swelling from other causes, rub in a piece of this ointment, as large as a nutmeg, once or twice a day, upon the part, and on the inside of the thigh, as low down as the knee—continue the use of it, until the swelling is reduced. During the use of it, take a pill, No. 25, every, or every other night. Should the mouth become sore, and the person begin to spit, omit using the ointment for a few days, until it abate, then use as before, (if the swelling is not wholly gone.) This ointment is proper to be used in almost all hard, indolent tumores. In case of swelling and hardness in the right side, from inflammation of the liver, with obtuse pain under the short ribs, rub in a small piece of this ointment once or twice a day thoroughly. Should the mouth become sore, and spitting come on, omit the use of it until it abate ; then use as before, if need be. During the use of this ointment in the liver complaint, let the person take a pill, No. 12, every other or third night, or oftener if need be, at bed time. Should the person be weak and languid, let him take bitters, No. 8, 3 or 4 times a day. This ointment will kill lice and other vermin.

No. 25...Laxative Pills.

One of these Pills, taken at bed time, will generally work once or twice the next morning. They are proper to be taken in case of clap or pox, every or every other night.

No. 26...Powder for Claps.

In recent claps, take one of these powders, put it into a bottle that will hold half a pint, fill the bottle with rain water, shake it until the powder is dissolved. First take a pill, No. 25, night and morning, for one or two days, then after having dissolved the powder, as above directed, shake the bottle thoroughly, turn out a little of it into a tea cup, or wine glass, take the syringe, and fill it, introduce it into the end of the yard, and gently throw it up ; keep it up for three or four minutes, repeat the same once in eight or twelve hours, but never oftener than eight. By this treatment, a simple clap will generally be cured in two or three weeks.

No. 27...Cream of Tartar.

A table spoonful of this, dissolved in a quart of boiling water, (sweeten it a little, if more agreeable) makes a pleasant beverage, and forms a good cooling drink in fevers ; and may be used freely.

No. 28...Flower of Brimstone.

This is a useful medicine, to be given, when a person has got a sore mouth by taking mercury ; a tea spoonful of it may be taken for a dose, night and morning, in a little molasses. It is an excellent medicine in almost all cutaneous diseases—a tea-spoonful of it may be given night and morning, mixed with a tea-spoonful of cream of tartar, No. 27, and continued as long as necessary.—It should be given alone for a mercurial sore mouth.—Take of hog's fat, half a pound ; flower of Sulphur, four ounces ; mix them thoroughly together. This ointment is a safe and sure remedy for the Itch.

No. 29...Gum Arabic.

A very useful emollient. In claps, dissolve two table spoonsful in a pint of warm water, let the person drink it freely all the time, for his common drink—in all cases of suppression or smarting of the urine, this is of great service and should be taken very freely.—It is of great service in dysentery, and should be taken freely ; it is likewise good nourishment.

No. 30...Barley.

Take a table spoonful of this, put upon it three pints of water ; let it boil away to two ; then strain it, if more agreeably—in case of fever, or any other indisposition, this is a very nutritious and useful drink—it may be taken very freely.

No. 31...Sago.

This is a proper nourishment to be taken in all fevers, or any slight indisposition—it is particularly useful in dysentery, and in a lengthy purging or diarrhoea.

No. 32...Oatmeal.

Take from one to three table spoonsful to make a quart of gruel, as you may wish for the consistence of it ; boil a few raisins in it, or sweeten it if you please. This is proper nourishment to be taken in fevers, and to be drank during the operation of physic.

No. 33...Humour Drops.

This is a useful medicine in scrofulous swellings about the neck, and in almost all bad humours. When continued for some time, it seldom fails of giving relief.. Dose, from 35 to 45 drops, to be taken in a little fair water, night and morning. In swellings of the neck, wear a plas-

ter, No. 34, at the same time you are using the drops. This medicine may be taken in pox, night and morning.

No. 34...Mercurial Plaister.

This spread on leather is proper to be put upon hard scrofulous tumors about the neck, or other parts of the body, and to be applied to buboes of the groin, while using the Mercurial Ointment. It is often of great service, applied to any hard indolent tumor.

No. 35...Eye Water.

In weak and inflamed eyes, wash them with this eye water, two or three times in 24 hours—should it prove too strong by producing much tingling and smarting, weaken it by adding a little rain water. This eye water only needs use to recommend it.

No. 36...Itch Ointment.

In case of itch, rub a little of this ointment on any part of the body, where there are pimples, and repeat it as often as the pimples appear—continue the use of it in this manner, until they are wholly gone.

No. 37...Sal. Æratus.

Take three tea-spoonsful of this salt, put it into a tumbler, measure upon it eight table spoonsful of water, stir it until the salt is dissolved. In case of puking, or sickness at stomach, especially when the person is troubled with bile, take a table spoonful of this medicine, put it into another tumbler, and put upon it a spoonful of lemon juice or sharp vinegar; let the person swallow it at the moment of mixing. This medicine is remarkable for turning sickness, and carrying bile off the stomach; it may be given every hour, or oftener, in bad sickness at stomach. It is a useful medicine, to be given in all fevers, and in the first

stages of them may be given once in 2 or 3 hours constantly. In four stomach, a table spoonful of this medicine, taken without the acid, will give relief immediately, and may be repeated as often as the complaint returns.

No. 38...Sudorific Pills.

One of these Pills, in a bad cold or fever, where the skin is hot and dry, may be taken every hour and half, and repeated until they produce free sweating.

No. 39 ..Mercurial Pills.

These Pills are proper to be given in almost all cases where mercurial medicine ought slowly to be introduced into the system ; they may be given once or twice a day. In the pox, these pills may be used, and also in obstructions of the visera : in recent claps they are not to be used. In any case where they are used, after the mouth begins to be sore, and the person begins to spit, omit the use of them.

No. 40...Stoughton's Elixir.

This is a good bitter, excellent to create appetite, and exhilarate the spirits, and to remove weakness and faintness from the stomach. From one to two tea-spoonsful may be taken in a glass of wine, cider, or water, in the morning at eleven o'clock, and at 5 or 6 in the afternoon.

Anderfon's Pills—British Oil—Leather—Lint—Lancet—Knife—Crooked Needle—Syringe.

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